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Your dream home in Aruba starts with a conversation!

Most Americans expect higher prices as a result of Trump's tariffs, a new AP-NORC poll finds

By JOSH BOAK and AMELIA THOMSON-DEVEAUX
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Americans' trust in President Donald Trump to bolster the U.S. economy appears to be faltering, with a new poll showing that many people fear the country is being steered into a recession and that the president's broad and haphazardly enforced tariffs will cause prices to rise. Roughly half of U.S. adults say that Trump's trade policies will increase prices "a lot" and another 3 in 10 think prices could go up "somewhat," according to the poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

About half of Americans are "extremely" or "very" concerned about the possibility of the U.S. economy going into a recession in the next few months. While skepticism about tariffs is increasing modestly, that doesn't mean the public is automatically rejecting Trump or his approach to trade. However, the wariness could cause problems for a president who promised voters he could quickly fix inflation. Trump shows vulnerability on the economy

Three months into his second term, Trump's handling of the economy and tariffs is showing up as a potential weakness. About 4 in 10 Americans approve of the way the Republican president is handling the economy and trade negotiations. That's roughly in line with an AP-NORC poll conducted in March.

Matthew Wood, 41, said he's waiting to see how the tariffs play out, but he's feeling anxious.

"I'm not a huge fan of it, es-



Elizabeth Mahon, owner of baby store Three Littles, unpacks strollers and other inventory ordered by customers ahead of tariff-driven price increases at her Union Market location in Washington, on Wednesday, April 16, 2025.

Associated Press

pecially considering China and going back and forth with adjustments on both ends," said Wood, who lives in West Liberty, Kentucky, and is unemployed. "Personally, it hasn't affected me as of yet. But, generally, I don't know how this is going to come to an end, especially with the big countries involved."

Still, Wood said he changed his registration from Republican to independent, having been turned off by Trump's attitude and deference to billionaire adviser Elon Musk. Wood voted for Trump last year and said he's willing to give the president until the end of the year to deliver positive results on tariffs.

About half of U.S. adults, 52%, are against imposing tariffs on all goods brought into the U.S. from other countries. That's up slightly from January, when a poll found that 46% were against tariffs. Driving that small shift largely appears

to be adults under age 30 who didn't previously have an opinion on tariffs.

Trump supporter Janice Manis, 63, said her only criticism of Trump on tariffs is that he put in a partial 90-day pause for trade negotiations with other countries. "Actually, I think he shouldn't have suspended it," said Manis, a retired sheriff's deputy from Del Rio, Texas. "Because now China is trying to manipulate all of these other countries to go against us, whereas if he would have left all the tariffs in play then these countries would be hit hard. But, oh, well, things happen."

Skepticism remains about Trump's tariff approach. Not quite 100 days into Trump's second term in the White House, people around the country are bracing for possible disruptions in how they spend, work and live. The U.S. economy remains solid for the moment with moderat-

ing inflation and a healthy 4.2% unemployment rate, yet measures such as consumer confidence have dropped sharply.

Trump has used executive actions to remold the global economy. He's imposed hundreds of billions of dollars a year in new import taxes albeit partially suspending some of them launching a full-scale trade war against China and pledging to wrap up deals with dozen of other countries that are temporarily facing tariffs of 10%. Financial markets are swinging with every twist and turn from Trump's tariff pronouncements.

Many Americans are not convinced this is the right approach. About 6 in 10 say Trump has "gone too far" when it comes to imposing new tariffs, according to the poll.

Stocks are down this year, while interest charges on U.S. government bonds have climbed in ways that

could make it more costly to repay mortgages, auto loans and student debt. CEOs are scrapping their earnings guidance for investors and seeking exemptions from Trump's tariffs, which hit allies such as Canada and even penguin-inhabited islands.

Trump seemed to recognize the drag from tariffs as he highlighted this week the possibility of a deal with China. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent had also said in a closed-door speech that the situation with China is not "sustainable."

Widespread concern about rising grocery prices. About 6 in 10 U.S. adults are "extremely" or "very" concerned about the cost of groceries in the next few months, while about half are highly concerned about the cost of big purchases, such as a car, cell-phone or appliance. Less than half are highly concerned about their ability to purchase the goods they want a sign of the economy's resilience so far. Retirement savings are a source of anxiety about 4 in 10 Americans say their retirement savings are a "major source" of stress in their lives. But fewer only about 2 in 10 identify the stock market as a major source of anxiety.

"This whole tariff war is just a losing situation not only for the American people but everybody worldwide," said Nicole Jones, 32. "It's revenge and everybody's losing on it."

The Englewood, Florida, resident voted last year for then-Vice President Kamala Harris, who replaced the incumbent president, Joe Biden, as the Democratic nominee. □

NY attorney general's lawyer urges Justice Dept. to reject Trump official's call for criminal probe

By MICHAEL R. SISAK

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A lawyer for New York Attorney General Letitia James on Thursday urged the Justice Department to refuse a Trump administration official's request to prosecute the Democrat for mortgage fraud, calling it "improper political retribution."

In a letter to U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi, the lawyer, Abbe Lowell, also offered evidence that the central accusation against James that she had falsely told lenders she intended to use a house in Virginia as her primary residence is easily disproven by records and correspondence related to the real estate transaction.

Any criminal investigation would be part of the Republican administration's "all-too-familiar playbook" of exacting revenge against longtime legal foes, wrote Lowell, a prominent white-collar defense lawyer who has represented Ivanka Trump, Jared Kushner and Hunter Biden.

"The stunning hypocrisy of President Trump's com-



New York Attorney General Letitia James speaks during a news conference outside Manhattan federal court in New York on Friday, Feb. 14, 2025.

plaint that the Justice Department had been 'politicized' and 'weaponized' against him is laid bare as he and others in his Administration are now asking you to undertake the very same practice," Lowell wrote. Federal Housing Finance Agency Director William Pulte, whose agency regulates mortgage financiers

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, sent a letter to Bondi on April 14, asking her to investigate and consider prosecuting James, alleging that on multiple occasions she had "falsified bank documents and property records." He cited "media reports" claiming that James had falsely listed a home in Virginia as her

principal residence, and he suggested that she may have been trying to avoid higher interest rates that often apply to mortgages on second homes.

Records show that James was listed as a co-borrower on a house being purchased by her niece.

Days later, Trump homeland security advisor and

White House deputy chief of staff Stephen Miller proclaimed to reporters that James was guilty of "multiple, significant, serial criminal violations."

Lowell, in his letter, said Pulte had "cherry-picked" evidence to promote baseless suspicions about James, who has sued Trump and his administration dozens of times and last year won a \$454 million judgment against him in a lawsuit claiming he had lied about the value of his assets on financial statements given to banks. Trump is appealing that verdict.

In seeking a criminal investigation, Pulte cited a two-page power-of-attorney form that James signed on Aug. 17, 2023, which states, "I intend to occupy this property as my principal residence." The form gave James' niece, Shamice Thompson-Hairston, the authority to sign documents on her behalf in connection with the purchase of the home in Norfolk, Virginia. Those forms are required when a person involved in buying a house can't be present for the closing. □

Associated Press

DNC chair rips vice chair David Hogg's plan to challenge incumbent Democrats

By JONATHAN J. COOPER

Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — Democratic National Committee Chair Ken Martin said Thursday that party officers should be banned from taking sides in primaries, countering DNC Vice Chair David Hogg's plan to raise money for candidates challenging Democratic incumbents.

Martin's proposal escalates a public feud between the new DNC boss and Hogg, who rose to prominence as a gun-control advocate after surviving the 2018 school shooting in Parkland, Florida. Both were elected by DNC members earlier this year.

Martin said he's drafting proposed bylaw changes

to require officers to remain neutral in all Democratic primaries.

Martin said party neutrality is crucial to maintaining the confidence of voters, pointing to the bitter feud that emerged after supporters of Sen. Bernie Sanders' 2016 campaign believed he was stymied by party insiders putting their thumb on the scale in favor of Hillary Clinton, who won the nomination but went on to lose the general election to Donald Trump.

"You can't be both the player and the referee," Martin wrote in an opinion piece published by Time. Hogg has said he'll raise millions of dollars through a political action committee unaffiliated with the DNC to

support primary challengers running against longtime incumbents in solidly Democratic congressional districts. He says the party needs a shakeup to bring in leaders who will more aggressively confront Trump and connect with younger voters.

Hogg said in a statement posted on social media that he is not breaking any current DNC rules, and his actions don't interfere with the party's responsibilities, including setting a presidential nominating calendar, supporting state Democratic parties, building data infrastructure and creating the campaign infrastructure for a future Democratic presidential nominee.

Voters don't view Democrats as a "real alternative to the Republican Party," he said.

"That will not change if we keep the status quo," Hogg

said. "We have no other option but to do the hard work of holding ourselves and our own party accountable." □



David Hogg talks to people after speaking at the 60th Anniversary of the March on Washington at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, Aug. 26, 2023.

Associated Press

In unintended filing, feds say Trump administration strategy to end New York toll is a losing battle

By **ANTHONY IZAGUIRRE**
Associated Press

The federal prosecutor's office in Manhattan accidentally filed an internal memo that poked holes in the Trump administration's strategy to kill New York's toll on driving in Manhattan, arguing the government should change tactics if it wants to block the nascent program.

The memo, intended for a U.S. Department of Transportation attorney, was inadvertently filed Wednesday night in New York's lawsuit against the administration over its efforts to shut down the fee. The blunder came days after the Trump administration gave New York a third ultimatum to stop collecting the toll, which started in January and charges most drivers \$9 to enter the most traffic-snarled part of the borough.

In the memo, three assistant U.S. attorneys from the Southern District of New York wrote that there is "considerable litigation risk" in defending Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy's decision to pull federal approval for the toll



Signs advising drivers of congestion pricing tolls are displayed near the exit of the Lincoln Tunnel in New York, Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2025.

Associated Press

and that doing so would likely result in a legal loss.

Instead, the three attorneys wrote, the department might have better odds if it tried to end the toll through a different bureaucratic mechanism that would argue it no longer

aligns with the federal government's agenda.

Nicholas Biase, a spokesman for the Southern District of New York, said in a statement Thursday that the filing was "a completely honest error and was not intentional in

any way."

The Transportation Department, meanwhile, took aim at the Manhattan federal prosecutor's office and said it was pulling the Southern District off the case.

"Are SDNY lawyers on this

case incompetent or was this their attempt to RESIST? At the very least, it's legal malpractice," a spokesperson for the agency said.

The statement comes after several top prosecutors in the office resigned and defiantly criticized their bosses in Washington, saying they were asked to handle a now-dismissed corruption case against Mayor Eric Adams in a manner they concluded was unethical, improper and wrong. Jay Clayton, President Donald Trump's nominee to lead the office, was sworn in this week.

Trump, whose namesake Trump Tower is within the "congestion pricing" tolling zone, has been a vocal critic of the program and had promised to kill it once he took office.

His administration in February ordered the state to shutter the program, saying it was revoking federal approval for the toll. Duffy has described the program as "a slap in the face to working class Americans and small business owners." □

Barnard College staff alarmed by federal survey asking if they're Jewish

By **JAKE OFFENHARTZ**
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — When employees at Barnard College received a survey this week asking if they were Jewish, among other personal questions, many initially disregarded the message as spam from a federal government impersonator.

The questionnaire, sent by text to their personal cell-phones, linked to a Microsoft form bearing the logo of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. After instructing respondents to check a box indicating whether they were Jewish or Israeli, and whether they practiced Judaism, it asked if they had experienced harassment as a result, including "unwelcome comments, jokes or discussions."

"Your first thought is, 'this

has to be fake,'" said Nara Milanich, a Barnard history professor who is Jewish.

But on Wednesday, the recipients of the text messages, which were first reported by The Intercept, learned they were authentic.

In an email to staff, Barnard's general counsel,

Serena Longley, confirmed the survey was part of a federal probe into whether the university had discriminated against Jewish employees. The EEOC, a federal regulator, had ordered Barnard turn over staff contact information "so that it could offer employees the option to vol-

untarily participate in their investigation," Longley wrote.

"Participation in the survey is voluntary," she added. Barnard faculty estimated that well over half of the university's staff had received the messages, which have set off anger and panic in recent days. "That the government is putting together lists of Jews, ostensibly as part of a campaign to fight antisemitism, is really chilling," Milanich said. "As a historian, I have to say it feels a little uncomfortable."

Neither the EEOC nor Barnard College responded to emails seeking comment. The surveys come as the Trump administration has enacted funding cuts and other punitive measures against universities across the country that it claims have not done enough

to quell antisemitism on campus. Barnard, a sister school of Columbia University, has been the site of frequent and at times disruptive pro-Palestinian protests against Israel's military campaign in Gaza.

Last week, Columbia University warned a smaller subset of its faculty that they may be contacted by EEOC as part of a new investigation into antisemitism on campus. The email, reviewed by The Associated Press, indicated the federal regulator was interested in speaking with members of the Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies, as well as the Task Force on Antisemitism.

It was not immediately clear whether those members had received the same questionnaire. Inquiries to Columbia University were not returned. □



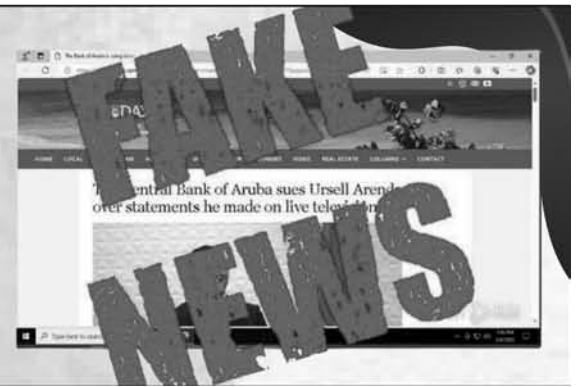
Banners hang from a building at Barnard College, May 28, 2015, in New York.

Associated Press

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International court appeals panel orders judges to reconsider Israel's jurisdiction challenge

By MIKE CORDER
Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — Appeals judges at the International Criminal Court on Thursday ordered a pretrial panel to reconsider an Israeli appeal against the court's jurisdiction over Gaza and the West Bank. The decision comes amid ongoing litigation into Israel's assertion that the court did not have the legal authority to issue arrest warrants in November for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his former defense minister, Yoav Gallant.

The warrants allege that Netanyahu and Gallant are responsible for crimes against humanity in the Gaza war. Israel, which is not a member of the court and rejects its jurisdiction, strongly refutes the allegations.

Judges at The Hague-based court dismissed a request from Israel to suspend the warrants.



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu attends his trial on corruption charges at the district court in Tel Aviv, Israel, Monday, April 21, 2025.

Associated Press

But in a legal victory for Israel, appeals judges said in their written decision that the pretrial panel "committed an error of law by failing to sufficiently address Is-

rael's argument that it was entitled to make a jurisdictional challenge" under the court's founding treaty, the Rome Statute. It ordered the pretrial judg-

es to make a "new ruling on the substance of Israel's challenge to the jurisdiction of the Court." The challenge was filed in September before the warrants

were issued and rejected two months later. It was not immediately clear how long judges will take to issue a new ruling.

In a statement on X, Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar said the arrest warrants were issued unlawfully and are "null and void." Israel has long argued that it does not have jurisdiction. The court, however, has accepted "The State of Palestine" as one of its 125 member nations.

"We said it from the start: The International Criminal Court in The Hague (ICC) doesn't have, and never had, jurisdiction to issue arrest warrants against Israel's Prime Minister and its former Minister of Defense. Israel is not a member of the ICC and is not party to the 'Rome Statute.'" Saar wrote.

The ICC prosecutor's office said in a written response that it was studying the decision and had no immediate comment. □

Amsterdam mayor apologizes for the city's role in the Holocaust

By MOLLY QUELL
Associated Press

AMSTERDAM (AP) — The mayor of Amsterdam apologized on Thursday for the role the Dutch capital played in the persecution of its Jewish citizens during World War II, saying the government at the time "let its Jewish residents down terribly."

Speaking at an event marking Israel's Holocaust Remembrance Day, Mayor Femke Halsema said that civil servants in Amsterdam played an active role in the murder of some thousands of Jewish citizens of the city. Of the estimated 80,000 Jews who lived in Amster-

dam at the outbreak of World War II, only some 20,000 survived. Among those deported was teenage diarist Anne Frank and her family. Only her father, Otto, survived.

"The Amsterdam government, when it came down to it, was not heroic, not determined and not merciful. And it let its Jewish residents down terribly," Halsema said.

"On behalf of the city government, I offer my apologies for this," she added. Halsema spoke at Hollandsche Schouwburg, a theater which operated as a collection point for Jews who were deported to ex-

termination camps. She recalled how the municipality helped with the registration of Jewish citizens and the drawing up of cards where Jews lived.

"Services were prepared to help enact one after the other anti-Jewish measure," she said. "Step by step, the municipal machine became part of the machinery of evil."

Halsema's apology ahead of the 80th anniversary of the Netherlands' liberation from the Nazis was not the first from the Netherlands. Five years ago, on the eve of the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz Nazi death camp,

then-Prime Minister Mark Rutte apologized for the

failure of the Dutch government during the war. □



Amsterdam Mayor Femke Halsema attends a ceremony at the Portuguese Synagogue marking the opening of the new National Holocaust Museum in Amsterdam, Netherlands, Sunday, March 10, 2024.

Associated Press

China denies any suggestion it is currently in talks with the U.S. over tariffs

By HUIZHONG WU

Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — China on Thursday denied any suggestion that it was in active negotiations with the administration of U.S. President Donald Trump over tariffs, saying that any notion of progress in the matter was as groundless as “trying to catch the wind.”

China’s comments come after Trump said Tuesday that things were going “fine with China” and that the final tariff rate on Chinese exports would come down “substantially” from the current 145%.

Guo Jiakun, a spokesman for China’s Foreign Ministry, said during a daily briefing on Thursday that, “For all I know, China and the U.S. are not having any consultation or negotiation on tariffs, still less reaching a deal.”

“China’s position is consistent, and we are open to consultations and dialogues, but any form of consultations and negotiations must be conducted on the basis of mutual respect and in an equal manner,” Commerce Ministry spokesman



A worker chats with a visitor at the booth for Exotica Freshener Co, a U.S. company selling fresheners, at the 137th Canton Fair in Guangzhou in southern China’s Guangdong province, Tuesday, April 15, 2025.

Associated Press

He Yadong said.

“Any claims about the progress of China-U.S. trade negotiations are groundless as trying to catch the wind and have no factual basis,” the spokesman said. Trump had told reporters earlier in the week that “everything’s active” when asked if he was engaging

with China, although his treasury secretary had said there were no formal negotiations.

Asked Thursday about China denying there were any conversations ongoing with the United States, Trump said, “They had a meeting this morning,” before adding, “it doesn’t matter who

they is.”

The U.S. president, a Republican, has expressed interest in a way to climb down from his massive retaliatory tariffs on Chinese imports to the U.S. There are mounting business and consumer concerns that the taxes will drive up inflation and potentially send the economy

into a recession.

The Trump administration throughout Thursday continued to send mixed signals.

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said he had a “very successful bilateral meeting” on Thursday with South Korea, indicating that the two countries could settle on the “technical terms” for an agreement as early as next week.

Yet within minutes of Bessent saying that, Trump fell back on his argument from Wednesday and said it would be “physically impossible” to go through negotiations with dozens of countries and “we are going to, at some point, just set prices for deals.”

“Some will be tariffed,” Trump said. “Some treated us very unfairly. They’ll be tariffed higher than others.” Trump had put 145% tariffs on imports from China, while China hit back with 125% tariffs on U.S. products. While Trump has given other countries a 90-day pause on the tariffs, as their leaders pledged to negotiate with the U.S., China remained the exception. □

Gangs in Haiti kill 4 soldiers and 4 civilians in bid to seize full control of the capital

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)

— Gangs trying to seize full control of Haiti’s capital have killed at least four soldiers and four armed civilians who worked with law enforcement to protect their communities, an official said Thursday.

Lionel Lizarre, spokesman for Haiti’s National Police, told Radio Caraïbes that two soldiers and four civilians were killed in Kenscoff, a once peaceful community on the outskirts of the capital, Port-au-Prince. Two other soldiers and an undetermined number of civilians were killed in the community of Pacot inside the capital, he said.

On Wednesday night, the government said that at least four police officers and armed civilians from the community of Canapé-

Vert, one of the few neighborhoods not controlled by gangs, were killed in the attacks.

In videos posted on social media, gunmen are seen mutilating several bodies

and picking up severed heads as trophies, saying, “We got the dogs.”

Ergens St. Pierre, a police officer and the leader of armed civilians in Canapé-Verte, told online news

site Tripotay Lakay late Wednesday that he was in mourning.

“The people of Canapé-Vert are crying a lot,” he said. “It was a personal initiative that they died for, so that the criminals wouldn’t come and take over their area.”

Haiti’s transitional presidential council and the prime minister’s office condemned the attacks in separate statements and said that multiple people were injured.

“The government reaffirms that the fight against insecurity remains its top priority,” the office said.

Gangs that control at least 85% of Port-au-Prince have launched recent attacks on previously peaceful areas that police and armed residents are trying to pro-

tect.

More than 260 people were killed in attacks on Kenscoff and Carrefour earlier this year, according to the U.N. political mission in Haiti.

Haitian police are working alongside a U.N.-backed mission led by Kenyan police to repel gangs, although they have struggled in their efforts. The mission is underfunded and only has some 1,000 personnel out of the 2,500 envisioned.

On Monday, the top U.N. official in Haiti told the U.N. Security Council that escalating gang violence is likely to lead the Caribbean nation to “a point of no return.” María Isabel Salvador warned that “Haiti could face total chaos” without increased funding and support for the multinational force. □



A soldier carries out an anti-gang operation in the Kenscoff neighborhood of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Feb. 3, 2025.

Associated Press

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Aruba's Nature is to be Cherished

ST. CRUZ — The national park Arikok comprises almost 18 % of the island. Its rugged terrain, desert-like hills filled with tall cacti, breathtaking coastline and protected local flora and fauna welcome you to be explored. There is numerous wildlife to discover like for example the sea turtle who lays his eggs on the park's beaches. There are more places on the island that are a preserved area like the Bubali Plas which is a bird sanctuary.

The national park Arikok takes you on a memorable journey of the islands past offering unique geological,

cultural and historical sites. These can all be enjoyed and explored either on your own or during guided tours. A wide variety of educational and informative programs and fun activities is available.

Did you know that four of the in total seven species of sea turtle lay their eggs on Aruba's beaches? In the national park, a Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) keeps a strict eye on a very special event taking place below on the beach: a majestic Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) heads back to sea after laying her eggs, while another nest laid 2 months ago by

the same female hatches. A very rare occurrence of daytime nesting and hatching. Sea turtles prefer nesting in the cool and dark hours of the night. And hatchlings usually wait for the cue of cooling surface sand before emerging.

Bubali Magic

This beautiful close-up image of the pink bird is courtesy of Michiel Oversteegen of the Aruba Birdlife Conservation. This important foundation showcases and builds awareness of Aruba's birds and other native flora and fauna. You may have seen a 'pink cloud' lately at the Bubali or Spanish Lagoon Wetlands areas? It's most likely to be Roseate Spoonbills (*Ajaia ajaja*) or 'Chucharon Cora' as they are known in Papiamentu. This unusual looking bird forages in shallow muddy water while sweeping its flattened bill from side to side to catch small fish, crustaceans



and other aquatic invertebrates. The Roseate Spoonbill remains an uncommon sight as they are vulnerable to degradation of feeding and nesting habitats (Wetlands). (Source: arikok national park)

The aforementioned is just a part of what Aruba's nature has to offer. We cannot stress enough to go, see for yourself. The island has the most beautiful beaches but it is also worthwhile to go beyond this and get an idea of our entire island. Lately there is a discussion going on about the effect

certain activities have on our nature, for example the ATV vehicles cause a lot of dust, noise and leave tire tracks. Animals live in these areas where the vehicles run, often with high speed and with detrimental consequences to flora and fauna. Motorized vehicles are forbidden to drive on the sand dunes in the Northern part of the island and all beaches in Aruba are forbidden for any motorized vehicle. Treasure our island to enjoy it like you do: as a tropical and natural paradise. We truly appreciate it! □





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Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitor at Amsterdam Manor Beach Resort Aruba!

The Aruba Tourism Authority was delighted to recently honor the Emerald Ambassador of Aruba. The honoree was presented with a certificate in recognition of her many years of visits, loyalty, and

love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to

guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

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Emerald Ambassador
Mrs. Linda Smyth from Medicine Hat, Canada.

Ms. Marouska Heyliger, representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Amsterdam Manor Beach Resort Aruba be-

stowed the certificate upon the honoree, presented her with gifts, and thanked her for choosing Aruba as her favorite vacation destination, as her home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honoree were:

- Aruba's people
- Aruba's beaches
- Local friends
- The non-Aruban friends made in Aruba

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honoree for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island". ☐



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The Iguana

ORANJESTAD – Colorful or camouflaged, you're bound to encounter a variety of lizards basking in the sun or scurrying on their way in our island. The most famous of them is the iguana.

Iguanas are easy to spot, as they are larger than most other lizards and when young, have a bright green color that makes

them stand out.

The iguanas usually found in Aruba are the Iguana iguana, known as the green iguana, or locally as Yuwana. The Yuwana are a mostly herbivorous species, and can grow up to 2 meters in size, including the tail, making them one of the largest in the iguana family. As you will see, despite their name, as they

reach adulthood, the iguanas can take on a grey or blue tone instead of the bright green displayed by the young ones. In Aruba – as in the rest of the Kingdom of the Netherlands – the most usual color varies from green to lavender, black and sometimes a reddish brown.

Yuwana is a protected species, as it is listed under Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), meaning that international trade is regulated through



the CITES permit system. In the past, Arubans used to eat a popular Yuwana soup, as it was believed to give strength and help restore health – probably due

to the protein boost it delivered. However, it is now illegal to catch, kill, buy or sell Yuwanas in Aruba, and this includes eating them! ☐

Fred and Sarah Maglione celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary!



Fred and Sarah Maglione of Columbus, Georgia, celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary with a memorable return to Aruba—marking their third visit to the island paradise.

From pier drinking to beachside laughs, they're making unforgettable memories alongside dear friends Brad and Mitzi Jones, and Kevin and Betsy Breen. Here's to love, laughter, and lifelong friendships! ☐

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Visit the natural bridges of Aruba!



(Oranjestad)—After you've visited the Alto Vista Church, the Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruins and the mini natural pool that is located right next to it, you're next up around the northern coast line must be the Natural Bridge. Once the largest natural bridge in the Caribbean, this bridge has been a tourist attraction for many years.

The bridge was formed during thousands of years, cut and crafted by the wild waves that crash into the coral stone walls of the coast. Before its collapse, this bridge measured 30 meters in length and 7 meters in height, making it the big-

gest natural bridge in the Caribbean at the time. For many years, this site was also a frequently visited beach, as the bridge had a small opening through which the water would flow into the tiny beach.

Unfortunately in 2005, the bridge collapsed, and the little beach dried up. Despite this, this site remained a tourist attraction, with many visitors walking along the coral cliffs of the bridge to see the spectacular view of the northern coastline and the Caribbean Sea. Visitors can also still visit the souvenir shop on the left of the bridge entrance.



While the natural bridge no longer is functional, there is now a small-

er natural bridge very close. This bridge is often called the "Baby Bridge" or "Daughter Bridge". □

Ayo & Casibari: Aruba's famous rock formations

(Oranjestad)—The Ayo and Casibari Rock Formations are known locally as one of the crucial sites to have in your "off-road" trip itinerary. These naturally formed rock formations as just one of the few places on the island that hold a rich history of our culture and of our ancestors.

Ayo

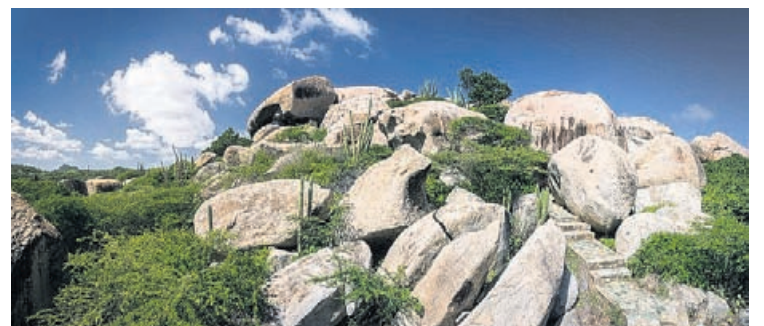
The Ayo Rock Formation is located in the northern part of the island, right on the road that leads you to

the Black Stone Beach, and close to the Natural Bridge. The Ayo is a fenced terrain that consists of several giant boulders, resting neatly on top of or side by side each other, adding gorgeous natural architecture to the surrounding "mondi"*. This is also one of the few sites to contain prehistoric markings of our indigenous ancestors. The Ayo Rock formation contains stairs that lead you to the top of the highest boulder, offering a breath-taking view of the

Aruban backyard. The Ayo is usually quiet, as it is situated farther away from the busier parts of the island. However, this is just another charm of the site: the quiet area and the refreshing breeze offer a sense of comfort and peace.

Casibari

Probably the busier rock formation site, the Casibari is situated more in the center of the island, much closer—and more accessible—to the general public. Just like Ayo, Casibari is a fenced area containing several boulders that lay on top or lean on each other. The best aspect of the Casibari Rock Formation is the accompanying view when you climb up the top of the round, flat bolder. For this position, you can see the majority of the island and the ocean in the south. Right in front of the entrance, there is the Casibari Café and Grill, a great



place to get refreshments and snack before continuing your off-road adventure!

Both sites are open free to the public, 24 hours a day. However, unless you are taking a trip with a professional tour guide, there are no guides at the sites to

help you climb the rock. So, do be careful when trudging on the boulders, and make sure to befriend any roaming goats you see along the way! □

***Mondi: what we call our Aruban wilderness. We don't have forests, or deserts, but we do have mondi!**



The Aruban Cunukero From past to present

(Oranjestad)—Aruba's culture consists of rich historical traditions that make up the Aruban identity and lifestyle. However, the life of the cunukero (farmer) is perhaps the most important aspect of our culture, in a sense representing to locals the true essence of the Aruban.

Historically, cunucus (farms) played a huge role in the early social and economic development of Aruba, and its relevance dates back to the early days of the colonization era. Upon being discovered by Spanish conquistadors in the late 15th century, Aruba was used primarily as a ranch, housing horses and cattle brought from Europe. During the Dutch colonization era where the West Indian Company (WIC) dominated the economic sphere on the island, using the land to set up cattle farms and ranches remained popular.

Anthropologist Sidney Mintz divided Caribbean farmers back in four categories:

1. The "squatters", who were mostly comprised of illegal and poor colonists, runaway slaves and deserters who took advantage of the Spanish's weak supervision on Caribbean islands like Cuba and the DR;
2. Then you have "Early Yeomen", who were legal farmers who came to the west under contract. Once their contract expired, they were given a plot of land for independent use;
3. Proto-Peasants were

4. Lastly you have the "Runaway Peasants", usually comprised of runaway slaves who acquired farming tools and cattle through stealing or through secret exchanges with other slaves from different plantations.

However, the Aruban cunukeros back then are hard to place, and their history may explain why.

From 1636 (beginning of Dutch colonization era) to before the oil industry in 1924, Aruba's population consisted of mostly farmers. These farmers were mostly indigenous and were characterized as peasants. They weren't allowed to participate in trading, but instead were granted a piece of land to live off of. However, in exchange for this grant, these indigenous farmers were obligated to work for the WIC, doing daily tasks such as taking care of or hunting cattle—large majority of which were destined for Curacao, clean water tanks and chop wood, among other things.

As much as these farmers were given to opportunity to live "free" with a plot of land, their exclusion from the trading and business world, as well as being deprived the chance to become real property and cattle owners, made them a unique group among Caribbean farmers at the time.

The WIC placed a lot of restrictions on these indigenous farmers—a method to safeguard their cattle deposit on the island. The indigenous farmers were mostly granted less than 7 acres of land. Those who owned bigger land were either once affiliated with the WIC or were colonists who settled on the island



to try their luck at farming. In 1767, there were about 120 houses/cunucus on the island.

These Aruban farmers were also limited to the amount of cattle they could keep. Most kept goats as cattle, as only those who were affiliated with the WIC could keep (more) sheep. Of the 76 goat herders on the island, about 45 of them had less than 30 goats, and only 7 of them had more than 60 goats.

It wasn't until the WIC was defunct in late 18th century that these farmers

were able to obtain more freedom as cunukeros. After 1824, the government gave these farmers official permission to keep livestock, and the obligations once placed on them were officially discarded.

Because of the dry climate in Aruba, growing food for commercial purposes was not popular. The focus was mainly on cattle herding and taking care of livestock. However, livestock need food to survive, and when Aruba experienced its duper dry climate, many farmers would see a big loss in their livestock, and

hence profit.

Although the WIC at one point did try to come up with an initiative to get more people to have land on the island, the climate never really allowed real profit from farming. Because of the climate, Aruban farmers in general could not keep large quantities of livestock. At a certain point toward the end of the 18th century, the climate got so bad that many farmers decided to leave the island for a while.

For this reason, the farming economy on the island remained small. As the years went by and people noticed that these farms could not really produce any sustainable profit, farmers kept their small piece of land just to live off of. This is why the Aruban cunukeros only played a very tiny role into the plantation economy.

In modern Aruba, cunucus and cunukeros still exist on the island, fortunately with more freedom and more opportunity to tap into the agricultural market. These farmers usually sell their produce on a smaller scale, like during farmers' market events and other types of (holiday) events. □

Source: "Arubaans Akkoord: Opstellen over Aruba van voor de komst van de olie-industrie (Aruban Accord: Essays on Aruba Before the Arrival of the Oil Industry)" by Alofs, Luc; Rutgers, Wim; Coomans, Henny E. red.



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 40 Miniature

- 1 One of the map
Deadly 41 Pound
Sins part
5 Church 42 Calls for
fixture 43 Low digits

10 Pays to play

12 "Cheers" barmaid

13 South America's north coast

15 Bar bill

16 Quaker's pronoun

17 Not pos.

18 Sand substance

20 Skin woe

21 Home design

22 Reduced amount

23 More than sufficient

25 Pack tight

28 Salon jobs

31 On this spot

32 Hun leader

34 Swearing-in vow

35 That guy's

36 Tote

37 Deluge

DOWN

1 Survives

2 Like some debts

3 Horse house

4 Wallet bill

5 Needing aspirin

6 Hurried flight

7 Somno-lent state

8 Sci-fi threat

9 Mountain chains

11 Half-hour show, often

14 Twinge

19 Start of a Caesar quote

20 Watchful

24 "Get a move on!"

25 Contribute

26 Made over

27 Incite

29 La Scala city

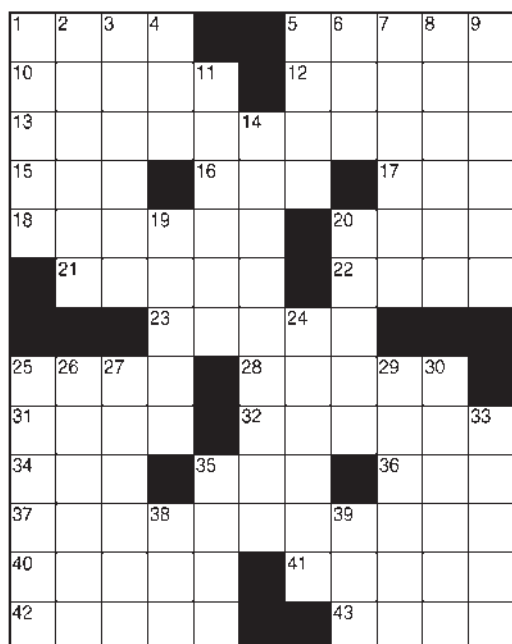
30 Water channel

33 Dance's de Mille

35 Top Ten songs

38 Cardinal color

39 Tire track



4-25

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-25

CRYPTOQUOTE

B L N B N Q Y V S B N K S J R H N K

B N B N Y , X L G B L G J Y V H S S .

V L Y V K Y I S J G V Y E Q Y C V .

B L N B N Q Y V S G J J Y Q Y T .

— Y C N C O K N Z J

Cryptoquote: I ASK YOU TO ENSURE THAT HUMANITY IS SERVED BY WEALTH AND NOT RULED BY IT. — POPE FRANCIS

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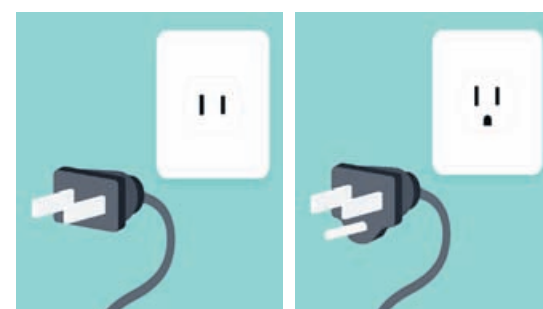
			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
TUE	22	CARNIVAL VISTA	13.00	23.00	C	1
		OASIS OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	I	1
WED	23	FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1
THU	24	NORWEGIAN GEM	08.00	20.00	C	1
FRI	25	NORWEGIAN GETAWAY	11.00	21.00	C	1
SUN	27	GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS	11.59	23.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	29	CARNIVAL HORIZON	08.00	22.00	B	1
		CELEBRITY REFLECTION	08.00	23.00	C	1
WED	30	FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

Electrical power

Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.



Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.



The world's biggest companies have caused \$28 trillion in climate damage, a new study estimates

By **SETH BORENSTEIN**
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The world's biggest corporations have caused \$28 trillion in climate damage, a new study estimates as part of an effort to make it easier for people and governments to hold companies financially accountable, like the tobacco giants have been.

A Dartmouth College research team came up with the estimated pollution caused by 111 companies, with more than half of the total dollar figure coming from 10 fossil fuel providers: Saudi Aramco, Gazprom, Chevron, ExxonMobil, BP, Shell, National Iranian Oil Co., Pemex, Coal India and the British Coal Corporation. For comparison, \$28 trillion is a shade less than the sum of all goods and services produced in the United States last year.

At the top of the list, Saudi Aramco and Gazprom have each caused a bit more than \$2 trillion in heat damage over the decades, the team calculated in a study published in Wednesday's journal Nature. The researchers figured that every 1% of greenhouse gas put into the atmosphere since 1990 has caused \$502 billion in damage from heat alone, which doesn't include the costs incurred by other extreme weather such as hurricanes, droughts and floods.

People talk about making polluters pay, and sometimes even take them to court or pass laws meant to rein them in.

The study is an attempt to determine "the causal linkages that underlie many of these theories of accountability," said its lead author, Christopher Callahan, who did the work at Dartmouth but is now an Earth systems scientist at Stanford University. The research firm Zero Carbon Analytics counts 68 lawsuits filed globally about climate change damage, with more than half of them in the United States.



The Chevron Richmond Refinery in this view from Point Richmond, Calif., Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2023. Associated Press

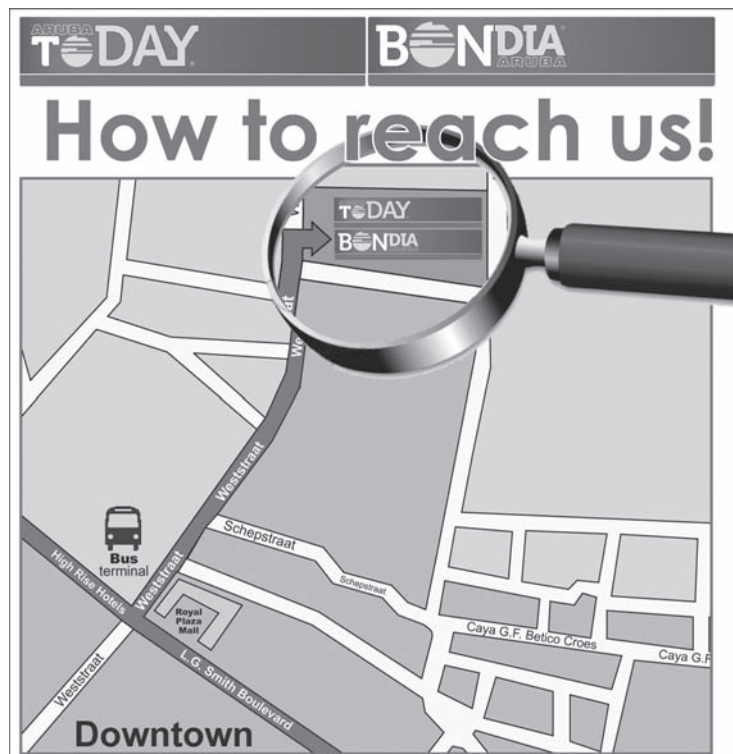
"Everybody's asking the same question: What can we actually claim about who has caused this?" said Dartmouth climate scientist Justin Mankin, co-author of the study. "And that really comes down to a thermodynamic question of can we trace climate hazards and/or their damages back to particular emitters?"

The answer is yes, Callahan and Mankin said. The researchers started with known final emissions of the products such as gasoline or electricity from coal-fired power plants produced by the 111 biggest carbon-oriented companies going as far back as 137 years,

because that's as far back as any of the companies' emissions data go and carbon dioxide stays in the air for much longer than that. They used 1,000 different computer simulations to translate those emissions into changes for Earth's global average surface temperature by comparing it to a world without that company's emissions. Using this approach, they determined that pollution from Chevron, for example, has raised the Earth's temperature by .045 degrees Fahrenheit (.025 degrees Celsius).

The researchers also calculated how much each company's pollution con-

tributed to the five hottest days of the year using 80 more computer simulations and then applying a formula that connects extreme heat intensity to changes in economic output. □



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Noord	527 3200
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Fire Dept.	115
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American Airlines	582 2700
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AID FOUNDATIONS

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FAVI- Visually Impaired	Tel. 582 5051
Alcoholics Anonymous	Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous	Tel. 583 8989
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Child Abuse Prevention	Tel. 582 4433
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One Tech Tip: Thinking of buying a secondhand phone? Some tips on what to look for

By **KELVIN CHAN**
AP Business Writer

LONDON (AP) — New smartphones aren't cheap and prices could reach even higher as globe trade tensions fueled by U.S. President Donald Trump's tariff threats throw Asian exports into turmoil.

To save money, consider buying a secondhand device.

The market for used cell phones is booming. It's now growing faster than the market for new devices, according to CCS Insight, a U.K.-based tech research firm.

As each new model release sends consumers rushing to upgrade, they'll also be selling or trading in their existing devices, which usually have lots of life left. If you're on a budget, a refurbished secondhand phone can be up to 50% cheaper than new, and they now come with warranties, flexible financing and after-sales service, CCS said in a recent report. Meanwhile, the starting price of a new top of the line iPhone Pro Max could potentially rise 29% from \$1,550 to \$1,200, according to a UBS estimate.

But buying a secondhand device is less straightforward than buying a new one. Here are some pointers:

Which phones are the most popular?

Apple fans will have the most choice because iPhones make up about 60% of the global market for secondhand phones, according to CCS insight. Samsung Android devices are second with about 17%. The rest is made up of lesser known Chinese brands like Xiaomi. Where can I buy them?

There are numerous places online to buy secondhand phones, but like much of the internet, there are many scammers. The usual advice applies: check reviews, look for trusted sellers and guarantees, and avoid deals that seem too good to be true.



Soma Sara founder of Everyone's Invited a charity that focuses on exposing 'rape' culture' and child-on child-sexual violence, showing survivor testimonies on her phone, in London, Monday, March 31, 2025.

Associated Press

Try platforms that specialize in selling secondhand electronics and other goods such as Gazelle and Backmarket. Refurbished phones are also available from retailers like BestBuy and Amazon. Phone companies also sell them, so check with your wireless carrier.

Even Apple and Samsung sell secondhand devices on their websites. The advantage there is that they've been refurbished by their in-house technicians, so you'll know they'll be reliable. The downside is that discounts aren't as significant and selection can be limited. Apple's website currently only lists refurbished iPhone 13 and 14 models, for example.

When a phone is refurbished, it normally means that the data has been wiped and it has been tested and inspected for any problems. Any defective or faulty components are normally replaced.

A used phone, however, could refer to any secondhand device, including those sold by individuals through online classifieds like Facebook Marketplace. Prices could be

cheaper but it's buyer beware because used phones are often sold as-is and usually without any repairs or guarantees.

"You will get the best price if you're prepared to handle that risk," Simon Bryant, vice president of research at CCS Insight.

Lots of used phones are also sold on marketplaces for so-called peer-to-peer transactions that also offer better protections for buyers, like eBay or Swappa, which have policies for refunds if a phone isn't as it was advertised.

What about the battery?

Just because a phone is refurbished doesn't mean that critical components especially the battery have been automatically replaced. It depends on a vendor's seller's policies.

Apple and Samsung say their secondhand phones come with new batteries and, in Apple's case, a new shell. Both companies also include a cable, a one-year warranty and a new box.

Meanwhile, other platforms might merely guarantee that a battery has a certain level of its original capac-

ity, usually 80%.

How do I judge the quality?

There are ratings, but be cautious with the terminology.

Each secondhand platform will usually have its own system of grading the quality of the devices it's selling. It's a useful gauge for comparing various phones that the vendor has for sale.

But keep in mind there's no universal system of grading. One platform's rankings might, for example, read "Good, Very Good, Pristine and Like New," while another will run from "Fair and Good to Excellent and Premium."

Grading is "all over the place," said Bryant, and it makes it difficult for consumers to compare, say, a \$300 phone rated "Grade A" on one site with the same device on another site rated "like new" and priced at \$280.

"It makes it difficult to shop around," he said.

How old is too old?

Bryant advises buyers to look for a phone that's about three generations old, and avoid anything that dates back more than five or six generations because that's getting to the

point where its Android or iOS operating systems may not be supported anymore. Three generations is "the sweet spot," said Bryant. "You know it's going to work. It's going to have relatively new features and it's not going to be used so much. So the wear and tear on the device will be less."

What about the risk that a phone is stolen?

Most online marketplaces have safeguards to prevent stolen phones from being sold to consumers, but check the policies to be sure.

If a phone is reported stolen, the carrier will usually blacklist the serial number, known as the IMEI number. Swappa requires sellers to run their device's serial number through its online checker before it can be listed for sale. The number can be found by dialing (asterisk)#06#. Some phones have two IMEI numbers, so Swappa advises checking both.

BackMarket says it works with the certified sellers that use its platform to make sure there are no blacklisted phones but sometimes "a bad apple" slips through. If that happens, it will work with buyers to return it immediately.

Can I check for water damage?

Most newer phones are water resistant and can withstand being dunked for a limited amount of time. But that doesn't mean they're totally waterproof. Any moisture that has gotten inside could damage components even if the phone looks fine from the outside. If you're buying a used phone in person, you can check if it has been exposed to liquid. Apple has a guide to finding the liquid contact indicator that every iPhone since 2006 has. Samsung has a similar page for Android devices.

What about accessories?

Charging cables or earphones might not be included. Don't forget to budget for these. □

Chippiness heating up in the NBA playoffs. Familiarity breeds contempt in Bucks-Pacers series

By **MICHAEL MAROT**
AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The usually good-natured Indiana Pacers star, Tyrese Haliburton, has shown he refuses to back down from his Milwaukee Bucks rival and fellow All-Star, Damian Lillard.

It's been part of the chippiness and chirping that is beginning to heat up as it usually does during the NBA playoffs. Haliburton has a succinct explanation for what fans have seen in Pacers' series with the Bucks, saying the teams simply don't like one another.

It doesn't seem there is much love lost between Golden State and Houston, or the Los Angeles Lakers and the Minnesota Timberwolves.

But for Milwaukee and Indiana, the animosity is about more than just one series. Haliburton responded when Lillard started chattering during a timeout in Game 1 of this first-round playoff series. He did it again when the players were jawing at one another late in Game 2. And if it happens again when the series resumes in Milwaukee, just a short drive from Haliburton's hometown of



Milwaukee Bucks center Brook Lopez (11) and Indiana Pacers center Myles Turner (33) fight for a rebound during the first half of a first-round NBA basketball playoff game in Indianapolis, Tuesday, April 22, 2025.

Associated Press

Oshkosh, Wisconsin, it will likely be more of the same. "He wants to win, I want to win and we're in the highest level, the most contentious moment here in the playoffs," Haliburton said after the Pacers took a 2-0 series lead. "So it's just competition at the end of the day. But we don't have to sit here and act like there's any secret. We don't like them, they don't like us that's just what it is."

It's easy to understand how the Pacers-Bucks matchup reached this intensity. Game 3 will be their 18th matchup since the start of last season and Milwaukee desperately wants to avoid a third straight first-round exit, the second straight to Indiana.

A year ago, Indiana won four of the five regular-season matchups and then ousted the Bucks 4-2 by winning three of the last four

playoff games. This year, Milwaukee won three of four during the regular season but has lost the first two in the postseason, where chippiness is the norm. It is happening around the league.

In Boston, an inadvertent elbow from Orlando center Goga Bitadze, a former Pacer, left the Celtics' Kristaps Porzingis bloodied.

In Houston, there has been a lot of trash-talking

and stare-downs with Dillon Brooks and Draymond Green among the participants. It didn't help that Jimmy Butler had to leave the game after a hard fall in Game 2 of that series.

In Los Angeles, Anthony Edwards and Luka Dončić have helped fan the flames.

That's just playoff basketball, which comes with heightened physicality. But for the two All-NBA guards in the Indiana-Milwaukee series, the stakes may have first ratcheted up when Haliburton celebrated a decisive 3-pointer in the final minute of Indiana's 128-119 victory over Milwaukee in the 2023 NBA Cup semifinals, stealing Lillard's signature Dame Time move by looking at his wrist. He's done it since then, too. And then, of course, there was last season's dispute over a ball, which sent two-time league MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo racing into the Pacers locker room after he'd scored a career high 64 points.

Milwaukee coach Doc Rivers believes the flareups that were so common during his NBA playing career, one of the most physical eras in league history, are more of a sideshow. □

Bob Costas wins Baseball Digest lifetime achievement award

NEW YORK (AP) — Bob Costas has won the fifth Lifetime Achievement Award presented by Baseball Digest. The longtime broadcaster was honored Thursday with an annual distinction that "recognizes a living individual whose career has been spent in or around Major League Baseball and who has made significant contributions to the game."

Willie Mays won the inaugural award in 2021, followed by Vin Scully (2022), Joe Torre (2023) and Dusty Baker (2024).

"Baseball hasn't just been a big part of my career. It's been a big and ongoing part of my life," Costas said in a news release. "Someone once said of me, 'He is a citizen of the game.' I hope that was true. I hope I have meant something to the game. I know it has meant a great deal to me."

Costas has hosted or called seven World Series, 10 League Championship Series and eight All-Star Games. He's been with MLB Network since its inception in 2009. He stopped doing play-by-

play following the 2024 postseason but will continue to contribute to the network's coverage. He received the National Baseball Hall of Fame's Ford C. Frick Award in 2018 for major contributions to baseball broadcasting.

"As one of the most decorated sports broadcasters of all-time, Bob Costas' love of baseball and passion for the game has always been evident," MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred said. "Bob has been a part of some of the most important moments in MLB history. His vast baseball



Broadcaster Bob Costas poses for a photo at the 24th Harold & Carole Pump Foundation Annual Gala at the Beverly Hilton on Friday, Aug. 16, 2024, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

knowledge and experience has allowed him to provide thoughtful commentary and valuable historical context throughout his career working with MLB's broadcast partners and MLB Network." □

Costas was chosen in voting by a 19-member panel from a list of 10 finalists that also included Terry Francona, Sandy Koufax, Tony La Russa, Jim Leyland, Lou Piniella and Bud Selig, among others. □

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Judge delays \$2.8 billion NCAA settlement to address roster limit concerns. Attorneys warn of chaos

By **EDDIE PELLs** and **ERIC OLSON**
AP Sports Writers

The judge overseeing the rewriting of the college sports rulebook threw a potentially deal-wrecking roadblock into the mix Wednesday, insisting parties in the \$2.8 billion anti-trust lawsuit redo the part of the proposed settlement involving roster limits that many schools are already putting in motion.

"Any disruption that may occur is a problem of Defendants' and NCAA members schools' own making," U.S. District Judge Claudia Wilken wrote in a pointed five-page order in which she gave no weight to the argument that a reworking of the proposal could throw college sports into chaos. She gave the sides 14 days to contact their mediator and return to the bargaining table.

The settlement in the land-



The NCAA logo is displayed at center court at The Consol Energy Center in Pittsburgh, March 18, 2015.

mark class-action lawsuit called for schools to no longer be bound by scholarship limits for their teams, but rather by roster limits in which everyone would be

eligible for aid. It figured to ultimately weed out walk-ons, athletes on partial scholarships and, in extreme cases, entire teams. In preparing for the settle-

ment to be approved, schools across the country have been busy cutting players who, in turn, were finding spots on new teams. Attorneys argued that

undoing all those moves would add even more turbulence to an already tumultuous landscape.

Not her problem, Wilken said, in insisting both sides jumped the gun in making the moves.

"The fact that the Court granted preliminary approval of the settlement agreement should not have been interpreted as an indication that it was certain that the Court would grant final approval," Wilken said of the preliminary nod she gave back in October that set these transactions in motion. While the attorneys look for a Plan B, the clock is ticking.

Terms of the settlement were supposed to go into effect July 1. Football practice starts soon after. Whether rosters will come in at around the old average (128) or the newly prescribed limit (105) is an open question. □

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